

# S A N T A C L A U S !

HAS FOUND

T O M Y

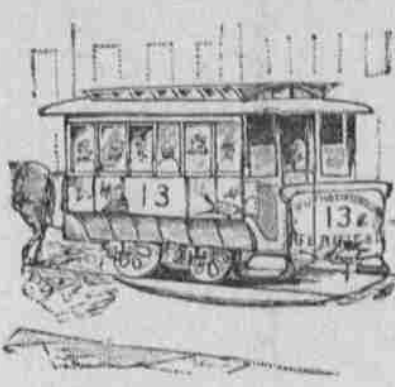
REDUCTION

**\$175,000 Stock, \$125,000 must be**

Sold by January 1st, and is taking on an immense load in useful Holiday Gifts.

**Both City and Out-of-Town Customers**

Should remember that my store way system. Cars come and go lines running to the Union depot. plying 200 feet through from



is the centre of the street rail- in eight different directions, two So extensive is my stock, occu- Houston to Main street, that it

Would be impossible for any one to pass through and make an examination of the bargains offered in less than two days. Open from 7 in the morning until 9 in the evening, and 12 m. Christmas Eve.

**W. M. H. TAYLOR,**

Successor to Taylor & Barr.

## LADIES' COLUMN.

Arrayed in Wool and Fur for the Contest with Blustery Old Boreas.

Efforts of the Operatic World to Banish Hats to the Dressing Room.

Joys in Gifts and Cheer. Notes, Hints and Hints for the Festive World.

There is no question that all-wool have fully established themselves, the present attempt to intro- duce except for in-door wear is to meet with disappointment.

There is no doubt the tailor-made garment is much to be recommended for uniformity, and as that must of necessity be so, the material of the skirt is of great importance.

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roses and palest green velvet foliage mingling with the towering green plush loops just over the corset.

Long redingotes, covering the entire dress, are being revived. Those of checked English cloth, made smooth across the front and sides and tight fitting, with two flat box pleats down the back of the skirt and a short shoulder cape or a hood, are very stylish, and are especially favored by young girls and women with good figures, who justly consider them the most convenient and becoming wrap for morning and afternoon street wear.

One of dark blue cloth is double-breasted and trimmed with blue fox, which, starting from the left side, crosses the bust, and is continued to the bottom of the coat; the high collar and deep cuff are of fur, and the blue cloth toque is trimmed to match.

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The trimming is simply upright bows of colored velvet. There are no strings. The turban hat of other days is revived, but altered in the matter of style, as the crowns are higher, the brims narrower, and the trimmings towering and rampant in effect.

A jacket of brown velvet is tight-fitting and is bordered with broad military braid. It is trimmed across the front with loops of narrow braid in Russian fashion.

For debutantes, coming-out dresses are entirely white, with skirts of striped or beaded tulle and pointed, low-necked waists of satin and velvet. A large rose, with long pendant ends of white satin ribbon, is worn on the left side, and there may also be a bow of ribbon on the right shoulder.

The newest Parisian dinner dresses are made of heavy corded silk, satin sublime, or fallie Frenches, the skirts showing four breadths of the silk or satin, shirred or pleated into as small a compass as they can possibly be arranged, with not a vestige of extra drapery or such effects above.

Stringless bonnets should always be accompanied by delicate mask veils. Jetted net veils are worn with jet millinery, and plain and pearl-dotted veils are seen upon bonnets and English walking hats of velvet or felt that are velvet-trimmed.

When strings are attached to bonnets they are usually made up with tiny chin bows fastened at one side either by a common safety pin placed so as to be invisible, or else by an ornamental fastening, this in evidence, brooches, fancy clasps, or gem-headed pins alike being employed for the purpose.

Fancy sleeves seem to be really gaining in favor, many of the imported French models showing different varieties of them. The prettiest are those that are laid in attached pleats from the shoulder to the elbow, where the pleats are let out to form a puff, being again stitched in from the shoulder to the wrist. In this way the shape of the arm is preserved, while the sleeve bears the charm of novelty.

Not long since in this column mention was made of ribbon parties and various pretty uses to which this kind of decoration was applied. As afternoon receptions are now so fashionable, a pretty lunch table is an important adjunct and can be as beautiful as well as hunger-satisfying arrangement. The hostess receives in handsome dinner costume, generally black, and can be more beautiful in black lace, while the younger members of the family appear in lighter colors of pink, blue and lavender shades of silk. The guests come in visiting costume, removing their wraps before entering the drawing-room. A lunch table conveniently situated can be tastefully arranged and the following description of one recently spread will give the reader some idea of its prettiness:

Covers were laid for twenty-two and the table was a picture of beauty. Down the center, the entire length of the table, was a broad band of crimson plush, interrupted here and there with table mirrors. Every wine glass, decanter, spoon, fork and cup on the table was decorated with an exquisite ribbon bow of various colors. Rosettes were made for each of the ladies. The bouquets and other floral decorations were all tied with colored ribbon. The floral decorations were unusually handsome, and the whole effect was brilliant in the extreme. The favors consisted of unique little baskets of flowers, to which the card of each lady was attached by a ribbon of rainbow colored ribbon.

For the Christmas menu there is added a few tried recipes, which have always proven eminently satisfactory:

Mayonnaise of Salmon.—One can of salmon, freed from all bones, skin, oil, etc., and laid on a bed of delicate lettuce leaves if they are to be had. Cover with dressing made as follows: Put the yolk of a raw egg in a bowl and beat a little with a silver fork, add half a teaspoonful of salt and a salt spoonful of mustard. Then, a few drops at a time, stir in half a pint of the best olive oil, alternating with one tablespoonful of vinegar and one of lemon juice. Add a sprinkling of cayenne. Two eggs are often used, and enough can be made at once for several salads, as it keeps perfectly in a cold place. Do not wash the salmon with it; it is needed, as it soon loses its thick creamy consistency when mixed with anything.

CELERY SALAD.—Take six heads of celery, wash and wipe dry. Cut in pieces in a salad bowl. Mix the yolk of one egg, a teaspoonful of mustard, salt and pepper each, with the juice of one lemon and two tablespoonfuls of water. Beat all together, pour four ounces of olive oil in drop by drop, then add a small teaspoonful of hot water. Pour over the celery.

SCALLOPED OYSTERS.—Put the oysters alternately with bread crumbs, pepper, salt, nutmeg and a few pieces of butter in a buttered dish, pour over the whole a cup of the liquor; put in the oven for forty minutes to brown.

SNOW CAKE.—One pound of arrowroot, one pound of white sugar, the whites of eighteen eggs, three-fourths of a pound of white butter. Beat the butter to a cream, stir in the sugar and arrowroot slowly. At the same time beating the mixture, whisk the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth, and add them to the other ingredients, and beat well for half an hour; put in your favorite flavoring, pour the cake into a buttered pan, and bake in a moderate oven from one to one and a half hours. Instead of arrowroot, you can use corn starch or very white flour in this recipe. This batter will serve for white fruit cake; only, after the grated or chopped almonds into the sugar and butter before adding the other ingredients.

BLACK CAKE.—One pound of brown sugar, but not burned, one pound of brown sugar, one pound of citron, two pounds of currants, three pounds of stoned raisins, three-quarters of a pound of butter, one teaspoonful of dark molasses, two teaspoonfuls of cinnamon, one teaspoonful of cloves, one teaspoonful of nutmeg powder, sifted into the dry flour; twelve eggs. Make after the method and rotation followed in making any fruit cake. This is the real, old-style black cake.

WHITE FRUIT CAKE.—Make a batter for a large white or silver cake, then pour, grated coconut (quantity, two nut-) and stir into the white batter with two pounds of almonds blanched and cut fine, and one pound of shredded citron.

Take a nice fresh white cabbage, wash and drain it, and cut off the stalk. Pare down the head evenly and nicely into very small shreds with a cabbage cutter or knife. Put it into a deep dish, and prepare for it the following dressing: Take a gill or half a tumbler of the best vinegar, mix with it a quarter of a pound of butter, divided into four bits and rolled in flour; a small salt-spoon of salt and the same quantity of cayenne pepper. Stir this together and boil it in a saucepan. Have ready beaten the yolks of four eggs. As soon as the mixture boils take it from the fire and stir in the eggs. Then pour it boiling hot over the shred cabbage, and mix it well with the spoon. Set it to cool on ice or snow, or in the open air. It must be thoroughly cold before it is served.

TRAIN ROBBERY.—Comments on the Recent "Step Up and Be Robbed" at Bellevue. Chicago Herald.

It has been the boast of many of the celebrated road agents of the West that there was no danger in robbing a stage coach. In most cases the facts have borne them out. Whether the passengers have been many or few, armed or unarmed, warlike or peaceful, the result has been that with very few exceptions the robbers have had their own way, and their victims have been concerned themselves only in an effort to facilitate the work of the more expeditions. In train robbery the same disposition seems to be manifest.

Three young men attacked a train in Texas a few nights ago, and while one of them made the engineer and fireman take to the woods the other two went into the cars, which contained about forty men, and had things their own way. It happened that five United States soldiers were on the train acting as an escort to a military prisoner, but when their commander ordered them to open fire on the robbers there was such a panic among the ladies and gentlemen that he was at length induced to withdraw his command.

It was argued by the more timid among the passengers that if any resistance were shown the thieves all would be massacred, and to avoid anything approaching bloodshed the troops and none of the civilians offered any resistance. In this way the robbers, who are believed to have been mere amateurs, had no difficulty in securing many valuables and considerable money, but they might have had much more of both if they had been disposed to take it.

All these robberies in which no resistance is offered seem to prove that, in spite of the all-prevailing aversion of the day, the average traveler would rather be duped than to be murdered. It is to these that the railroad schemers and wreckers address themselves. On technicalities they win their cases, while the equities are not touched upon. In laying out a legal campaign the resistance of the interests that are to be duped is discounted and prepared for. The crafty corporation lawyer sees where his opponents will stand, and he takes care to avoid even the appearance of illegal action. Combating such schemers the intended victims must generally depend upon equity, and, unfortunately for the cause of justice, equity generally counts a very small figure in the courts when big corporations are engaged. Judge Gresham, in deciding the Wabash receivership case, took the equities into consideration, and necessarily found that they were against the G. & N. His denunciation of the methods of these wreckers was none the less severe. It might have been more biting, and still have been within the range of absolute truth.

There is a man who is very close to Judge Gould, enjoying his confidence, sharing in some of his enterprises, receiving assistance from him in his political maneuvers and generally representing him in politics, who is suffering from a severe attack of the presidential fever. If that individual has any other ambition to serve when he becomes president besides making things comfortable for the Goulds there are many honest men who doubt it. While James G. Blaine remains in the field as the standing Gould candidate for the presidency the reflections of the chief corruptionist of the day upon the aspirations of other men will not cause many hearts to ache.

also knows that presidential aspirations had no more to do with the decision than rendered than they had to do with the consistent, laborious and honest attempt of Judge Thurman in the United States senate to compel Gould and his associates in the Union Pacific railroad to fulfill their engagements to the people. An ambition to be president is not necessarily an unworthy one. Many learned and patriotic men have sought the place and others have declined it. But the intimation that a judge of Gresham's standing has been influenced in an important decision by an ambition to be president is a contemptible slander which is not to be passed by without notice. Judge Gresham, as a matter of fact, is probably as free from political ambition as any man of his prominence in America. He went upon the bench a few years ago with the expectation of remaining upon it, and men who know him, as Jay Gould does not, can say truthfully that to the worthy ambition to become a just judge he has consecrated himself as none too many public servants ever have. It is not because Judge Gresham has presidential aspirations, therefore, that Gould grieves, but because he has manifested a capacity to administer justice which upsets many of that plunderer's calculations.

The popular impression that corporations usually carry their point in the courts is correct, but this has been due as much to the shrewdness of the corporation lawyers as to any sympathy of judges with capital. Technicalities make up a great deal of what is known as law. It is to these that the railroad schemers and wreckers address themselves. On technicalities they win their cases, while the equities are not touched upon. In laying out a legal campaign the resistance of the interests that are to be duped is discounted and prepared for. The crafty corporation lawyer sees where his opponents will stand, and he takes care to avoid even the appearance of illegal action. Combating such schemers the intended victims must generally depend upon equity, and, unfortunately for the cause of justice, equity generally counts a very small figure in the courts when big corporations are engaged. Judge Gresham, in deciding the Wabash receivership case, took the equities into consideration, and necessarily found that they were against the G. & N. His denunciation of the methods of these wreckers was none the less severe. It might have been more biting, and still have been within the range of absolute truth.

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THE LAND QUESTION.—A West Texas Demand for Just and Sensible Land Legislation. Alliance Reporter.

The legislature will convene on January 11, and one of the first measures to be considered will be the land question. With a large majority of the people agreed that the lease law must be repealed and the lands put on the market for sale only, there is a difference of opinion as to

the proper method of sale, the price, the limit, the terms, etc. The object of the law-making power should be to provide for the sale of the public lands in the manner from which the greatest benefit would be derived for the perpetuation of the public school fund. The originators of the lease law made their great blunder in not calculating properly the effect that the lease system would have on the settlement and development of the country. They based their calculations on the lease of 36,000,000 acres of land at six cents per acre, overlooking the fact that in the lease of less than one-tenth the lands the key to the whole would be secured, so that further leasing would be impossible. They overlooked the fact that has been fully established by precedent that the revenue derived from a densely populated country, where the settler owned his lands and paid taxes on the same, together with his personal property, was much greater than in sections where the actual settlers were barred out and immigration completely blocked. They overlooked another very important fact, to-wit: That the revenue derived from the lease of land went into the school fund; while, under a sale system, the owner pays his state taxes on his lands and personal property which goes into the general revenue, and at the same time pays interest on deferred payments of lands purchased of the state, which of itself amounts to as much as the lease, after deducting expense of leasing, payments of great commission, etc. The only danger that we apprehend in the only legislation on this question is that our legislators will attempt to regulate the sales by limiting to one section, and that to actual, bona fide settlers. A system of this kind would work well in an agricultural country, but a large proportion of the public lands are located on the Western Plains where the live stock business will be the most profitable pursuit for many years to come. Our idea is that to bring this country up to a high state of development, it will be necessary to sell the lands to stockmen in quantities limited to five or seven sections. The best citizen is he who owns the soil on which he lives. A law of this kind would accommodate the owner of small flocks and herds, and they would not be crowded over the state lines as is now the case. The limit east of the 100th meridian might be placed at one section, and the limit west at eighty acres; as that section of country east of the 100th meridian is being rapidly developed into an agricultural country. With such a law as this, and the lease law abolished, West Texas would soon flourish as never before. The small stockman, now a wanderer on the plains without a place to cast anchor, would be accommodated, and would soon be settled and his little herd permanently located. The old cattle trails to the North, now closed with barbed wire fences, would be thrown open and the cattleman could drive his stock to the markets and not be dependent on railroads for transportation, which no transportation was to be had as is the case at present.

In Germany recently was held the "Cooper's Festival" which occurs in March every seven years. Those who took part in the Cooper's dance wore great skull-caps with blue and white feathers, silver-bordered crimson jackets, black velvet knee breeches, white stockings and shoes with silver buckles. Each dancer held above his head a half hoop of evergreen, from which hung a small keg.

It is stated that funeral cost three times as much as they did forty years ago. Funerals may come high, but people will have them.—Life.